

of the broadcasting system. However, on thinking it over, the government felt that it was not possible to give the regulatory agency such final authority over licensing conditions as they apply to the Corporation.

I think I explained this before. There have been some recent matters which I am sure made themselves felt in this decision and it was for this reason that the government had departed from its earlier view. Under the new legislation both the CRC and the CBC have to answer through the Secretary of State or whatever minister may be responsible to Parliament. Therefore, it would be considered inequitable to subordinate the CBC to the final judgment of the CRC on a matter which is so important and so fundamental as the conditions of a licence by which the Corporation is to operate and to implement its mandate. Rather, the view of the government is that both parties have an equal right to be heard but, for reasons very well understood I think by this Committee, it is not desirable to have an adjudicating authority located either in Parliament or in the Governor in Council. So there is only one other authority immediately answerable to Parliament and that is the minister through whom these corporations report to Parliament.

Now I do not think this statutory provision is ever going to be used. I do not expect to find the senior officers of two corporations like this in the Office of the Secretary of State seeking adjudication on very many occasions but I do think this provision or one like it is necessary in the statute to provide the clear definition for the authority and responsibility which you yourselves so strongly recommended in your Committee report on the White Paper. It seems to me that this is a procedure that will not be readily invoked but will be an encouragement to reasonable men to work out their differences rather than to face a showdown in front of the Minister which could seriously damage the position of one or the other of the parties involved.

The second possible source of major conflict between the two bodies concerns the possible failure by the CBC to measure up to the conditions of the licence after they have been laid down by the CRC. I do not think that this contingency is a very likely one either. But just as there has to be a sanction by the CRC to ensure that private stations

conform to the licences so there has to be some sort of sanction for the CBC as the public component in a national system. It does not seem to me that there is any sensible way of fining the CBC, and if one puts it exactly on all fours with the private element and talks about suspending it or revoking the licence that would mean that the CBC would deprive the public of a very valuable service.

So we felt that the only effective sanction would be a full investigation and disclosure of the circumstances which attended the alleged violation, and that is what is provided in section 24. The report would have to be tabled by the Minister in Parliament and if that report indicated a justifiable criticism of CBC management that would constitute of course a sufficient ground for dismissal. It would have to be necessary of course to find out who it was who was responsible for the breach of the condition. I think it is necessary to have some provision, some punitive provision, in the statute to provide a clear definition of authority and responsibility between the two agencies.

There are a number of things which have come up in the debate and I might deal with those specifically in answer to questions. There has been amusement expressed in more than one quarter about the title Canadian Radio Commission and I think I said on Second Reading that I was not wedded to that nor is the government. If a name such as Canadian Radio Television, Canadian Communications Commission or something of this kind finds itself more acceptable to the Committee I would be very happy to take it back to my colleagues. Indeed, the name CBC is not immutable either. It may be that in what we hope will be a new era for the public corporation a new name might also help. Mr. Chairman, in the general way, I think that is all I have to say. I hope as far as possible to be at least present during Committee meetings. My officials will be here all the time and will be able to answer any questions that I may not be able to answer.

I thank you again for this opportunity to appear. I would like to say I am very grateful to the Committee for their obvious intent to get on with an important matter which has been hanging for too long already.

**The Chairman:** Thank you, Miss LaMarsh. Are there questions any member wants to put to the Minister? Mr. Leboe had indicated that he wanted to ask a question.